



STATE OF CONNECTICUT • COUNTY OF TOLLAND

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029

AD HOC COMMITTEE CRYSTAL LAKE MILFOIL COMMITTEE Special Meeting Minutes April 7, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dave Arzt, Monique Burns, Bill Merson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeannie Burns, Rodger Hosig

OTHERS PRESENT: Jason Houghtaling, President - Waters Edge Restoration and Management (WERM), Amy Chin – WERM, Alice Chin – WERM, Walter Chin – WERM, Marcus Hatfield – Journal Inquire, and Monique C. Lussier

CALL TO ORDER: 7:40pm

CITIZENS FORUM: No comments.

PREVIOUS TASKS & UPDATES:

- In November 2009 Dave Arzt, Ad Hoc Committee President presented a summary report to the Board of Selectmen regarding the status, success and future needs of this program.
- On February 8, 2010, Dave Arzt, Jack Turner, Mark Mickiewicz, and Bill Merson met with the new Ellington First Selectmen, Maurice Blanchette to discuss the Ad Hoc Milfoil removal Program and give him an over view of the previous year's program and progress. The future needs of the committee as far as, funds to finish the removal of the rest of the milfoil and an estimate for an annual maintenance program were discussed.
- The attached "February, Town of Ellington Ad-Hoc Crystal lake Milfoil Removal Committee – Summary of Progress 2009", was reviewed. By this reference it is part of the meeting minutes it describes the following:
 - Work completed to date
 - Work remaining in the 2009 – 2010 Fiscal year
 - Budget request in the 2010 – 2011 Fiscal Year and work scheduled based on that budget.
 - Projected budget for Fiscal Year 2011 – 2012 which would consist of water testing and annual maintenance for milfoil.
- Progress report to Inland Wetlands Commission (IWC): Monique will submit the summary report of the milfoil removal project to the IWC and the plan for the next fiscal year.

BUDGET MEETING COVERAGE:

- The following meetings need to be attended by members of the Ad Hoc Committee so that we are available to answer any questions the board of finance may ask regarding the milfoil removal project:
 - April 13, 2010 – Budget Hearing (Bill Merson to attend)
 - April 20, 2010 – Budget Deliberations (Monique burns to attend)
 - April 27, 2010 - Budget Deliberations (TBD)

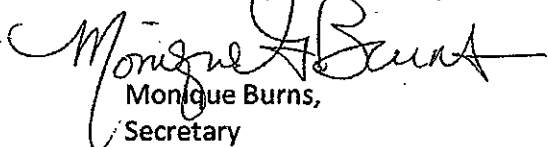
MOVED (B. MERSON), SECOND (D. ARZT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ALLOCATE 8 HOURS FOR WERM TO REMOVE THE FLOATING MILFOIL IN THE RTE 140 POND, INSTALL BARRIER FENCES AND BENTHIC BARRIER MATS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

COMMITTEE MEMBER QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED (B. MERSON), SECONDED (D. ARZT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THIS MEETING AT 9:05P.M.

Respectfully Submitted By,


Monique Burns,
Secretary

February 8, 2010

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON AD-HOC CRYSTAL LAKE MILFOIL REMOVAL
COMMITTEE- SUMMARY OF PROGRESS 2009**

• Budget	\$67,000	Capital Project- Contracted Services
	\$20,000	Technical Equipment (2009-2010)
	\$5,000	Water Quality Monitoring (2009-2010)

Scope of Project

1. Determine scope by report from Northeast Aquatic Research (17.5 acres in the main lake, not including Rt 140 pond, Aborn Cove, and Northeast Cove)
2. Determine method of removal: herbicides, benthic barriers or suction harvesting which will have the least impact the environment now and in years to come.
3. Select a DEP approved contractor specializing in the suction harvest method.
4. Interview contractor to assure we will remain within budget and get the best value of services.
5. Write a Town of Ellington approved contract and scope of services and have all parties agree with a project start date of August 1, 2009.
6. Assign a Project Manager to monitor daily activities including detailed work schedule, hours worked and quantity of milfoil removed. Insure invasive plants are disposed of properly at Hoffman Brush Dump.
7. Determine during the latter part of the project to apply some of the Technical Equipment Budget to removing additional milfoil because the scope of the removal of the milfoil was too large for volunteers to continue the annual process of plant removal.
8. Prepare and present a progress report, after project completion, for the Ellington Board of Selectmen.
9. Make recommendations for future measures and an implementation program to be taken to reduce or eliminate the growth of milfoil in the lake.

Accomplishments

We are happy to report that all of the above items were completed. Twenty plus (20+) acres of milfoil were removed. (We had located additional infestations with our own custom underwater video camera system.) An independent survey of the lake in September 2009 by Northeast Aquatic Research indicated that 99.9 % of the milfoil had been removed in the open water area of the lake but several adjacent areas required milfoil removal to prevent re-infestation of the lake.

2009- 2010 Expenditures

- \$66,648.26 Waters Edge Restoration and Management(WERM) for 212 hours
- \$7,950 WERM additional 50 hrs@ \$159
- \$3,520 Northeast Aquatic Research, test lab, surveys, reports
- \$122.00 Miscellaneous
- \$15,504.74 2009- 2010 balance as of report from Finance Department 2/1/2010
- Pending expenditures prior to June 30, 2010

Annual maintenance (unknown acres)	20 hours	\$3180.00
Remove milfoil adjacent to the dam(est. 6.3Acres)	30 hours	\$4,770.00
Remove milfoil in Aborn Cove (89% 5.92a=5.26a)	35.5 hours	\$7,554.74
Totals	85.5 hours	\$15,504.74

Recommendations

1. The Ad Hoc Committee recommends that it be continued beyond the original one year term so that the removal program can get to a point where only annual maintenance is required.
2. Implement the following Milfoil Removal Program for 2010
 - Place signs requesting 'No Propellers' at Aborn Cove and Northeast Cove.
 - Implement, with assistance from Crystal Lake Association, an education program about invasive plants and unnecessary trash in the lake by using hand out pamphlets at the boat launch and local establishments.
 - Request that the DEP enforce the boat trailer inspection laws that prohibit transporting invasive plant species.
3. Recommend that the \$25,000 Water Quality line item be continued in the 2010-2011 to remove milfoil in all targeted areas of the lake.

Budget to accomplish the following:

Water quality testing April-November 8 sample		\$1,000.00
Complete removal milfoil Aborn Cove(11% 5.92=.65acres)	4.48 hours	\$ 952.85
Remove milfoil in Rt 140 pond (est. 1.75 acres)	40 hours	\$8,507.60
Remove milfoil feed stream from pond(est.2.92 acres)	30 hours	\$6,380.70
Remove milfoil in Northeast Cove(est.2.2 acres)	30 hours	\$6,380.70
Invasive Plant Concentration Survey- N.E. Aquatic Research		\$1,500.00
Miscellaneous expenses		\$ 278.15
Totals	104.48 hours	\$25,000.00

4. Recommend that the Water Quality line item be budgeted at \$7,000 for 2011-2012

• Annual maintenance	20 hours	\$4,253.80
• Water quality testing April-November 8 samples		\$1,000.00
• Water Quality Report 2008-2011 N.E. Aquatic Research		\$1,500.00
• Miscellaneous expenses		\$ 246.20
	Total	\$7,000.00

Dave Arzt Chairman
Bill Merson Vice Chairman